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& IRENTHE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

Applicants

BRANDER et al.

Serial No.

08/976,159

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MAY 2 9 2001

Filed

November 21, 1997

Technology Center 2100

For

ENHANCED MATCHING APPARATUS AND

METHOD FOR POST TRADE PROCESSING AND

SETTLEMENT OF SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS

Examiner

Romain Jeanty

Art Unit:

2765

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Assistant Commissioner

for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Ally's Grandans ()

MICHELLE M. CARNIAUX

KENYON & KENYON

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This paper addresses the Office Action dated February 7, 2001. Initially, please amend the application as set forth below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1. (Amended) A system for settlement of a securities trade by obtaining agreement as to the details of the trade among a broker, institution, agent and interested parties comprising:
 - a. a computer system which enables the broker, institution, agent and interested parties to send and receive communications.
 - b. a standing instructions database containing sets of instructions for trade settlement input by the institution, the broker and the agent prior to the securities trade;